captioned "Two more iron-ore mines to be privatised" as reported in Indian Express dated 26th July, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the two more mines to which Government propose to privatise are profitable ones; and

(d) if so, the reasons why Government wants to privatise them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) is having mining lease for Kumaraswamy Block B and C deposits. Government of Karnataka has sought surrender to the lease held by NMDC in favour of the State Government to enable the State Government to lease it to private entrepreneurs setting up steel plants. Kumaraswamy deposits have not been fully commercially exploited as yet.

National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) has also applied for grant of mining lease in respect of Ramandurg Deposit.

Assistance to Tobacco Growers' Union

2511. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will extend assistance to Tobacco Growers' Unions on an ad hoc basis to educate farmers on lab-to-land research developments;

(b) if so, the kind of assistance that can be applied for;

(c) the steps likely to be taken to grant financial assistance to such tobacco farmers' organisations in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether any assistance has been given to them so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The technical know how of tobacco cultivation in terms of Tobacco Nursery Raising, Planting, Fertilizer Management, Disease & Pest Management, Harvesting, Curing and Grading is being given to the Tobacco Growers at CTRI.

(b) Tobacco Growers Association can make request to the Central Tobacco Research Institute for helping the farmers with the non-monetery inputs such as training and advisory services.

(c) to (e) No financial assistance is proposed to be granted to the Tobacco Farmers Organiszation in Andhra Pradesh.

Hardship faced by Ph.D Students in Delhi University

2512. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that postgraduate students of Delhi University are facing hardship to get their Ph. D. Degree on time on account of the failure of the examiners to turn up for conducting the Viva-Voce;

(b) whether students had to lose one year on this account as reported in the Indian Express dated 7-8-95; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to streamline Delhi University administration for being sympathetic to students for timely holding all examinations including that of for Doctorate degrees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KM. SELJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Schemes for Development of Medium and Small Cities in Gujarat

2513. SHRI ANATRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes introduced/ proposed to be introduced by the Central Government, through the Housing and

Developing Corporation, for the development of the medium and small category cities in Gujarat State; and

(b) the names of the cities/towns of the State selected/developed under the said scheme, together with the total amount spent on each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Since 1979-80, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT) having population upto 3 lakhs (now extened upto 5 lakhs) has been in operation in States and UTs. The Scheme of IDSMT aims at inprovement of township infrastructure such as (i) construction/ upgradation of Master Plan roads and drains, (ii) construction of bus terminals/ truck terminals, (iii) Markets and Shopping Complexes (iv) Sites and services (v) tourist amenities (vi) parks and playgrounds (vii) street lighting (viii) slaughter houses and other infrastructural facilities. From 1979-80 till 1994-95, 43 towns in Gujarat State have been covered under IDSMT and Central Assitance of Rs. 13.10 crores released to the State Govt. The State Govt. have reported a total expenditure of Rs. 17.38 crores till December 1994. Town-wise details are enclosed at statement. (See below)

For funding the new IDSMT projects taken up from the year 1992-93 onwards, institutional finance through HUDCO/other Financial Institutions has been dovetailed to budgetary support.

Statement

Town in Gujarat State covered under the IDSMT Scheme, Central Assitance Released and Expenditure Reported (From 1979-80 to 1994-95)

S.No.	Name of Town	Central Assitance	Expenditure Reported (Rupees in Lakhs)
1.	Anand	40.000	101.940
2.	Patan North	39.760	93.350
3.	Porbandar	28.370	22.090
4.	Valsad	41.740	69.780
5.	Varaval Pattan	24.500	70.700
6.	Palanpur	40.000	71.020
7.	Ankleshwar	38.340	70.950
8.	Dahod	39.950	65.660
9.	Mehamadabad	26.250	23.570
10.	Godhra	40.000	90.180
11.	Bhuj	30.000	51.180
12.	Ambreli	40.000	117.200
13.	Mehsana	36.020	108.060
14.	Khambatt	44.350	54.700
15.	Kalol Saij	40.000	68.460
16.	Sanand	8.000	14.220
17.	Dehgam	19.500	26.375
18.	Deesa	12.150	8.860
19.	Mahuva	46.000	101.040
20.	Billimora	43.000	92.490
21.	Vis Nagar	46.000	73.210
22.	Upleta	46.000	31.330
23.	Unjha	46.000	86.930
24.	Gondal	20.000	26.830

1	2	3	4
25.	Navsari	23.000	26.560
26.	Himmatnagar	29.750	59.410
27.	Junagarh	29.750	8.890
28.	Surendranagar	37.500	43.480
29.	Botad	15.000	7.790
30.	Morvi	25.000	8.730
31.	Sidhpur	40.000	25.920
32.	Keshod	20.000	26.670
33.	Viramgaon	20.000	13.050
34.	Wadhwan	34.000	—
35.	Bharuch	24.000	—
36.	Nadiad	57.240	—
37.	Palitana	24.000	—
38.	Borsad	22.000	—
39.	Bhoraji	7.000	—
40.	Petlad	15.000	—
41.	Padra	36.000	—
42.	Savarkundla	11.000	—
43.	Dabhol	13.500	—
	Total	1310.070	1738.665

Rationalisation of Royalty Rates for Minerals

2514. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to rationalise royalty rates for minerals to attract foreign investments in the country in the mining sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Mines has constituted a Study Group to consider the existing rates of royalty on major minerals other than coal, lignite and sand for stowing, and to recommend to the Government inter-alia rates of royalty which would be conducive to rapid development of the mineral sector.

(c) Government would take a decision on the matter after receipt of the report from the Study Group.

रायल्टी दरों का संशोधन

2515. श्री नारायण प्रसाद गुप्ता: क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने कोयला और लिग्नाइट को छोड़कर अन्य प्रमुख खनिजों की रायल्टी दरों में संशोधन करने हेतु सिफारिश करने के लिए किसी अध्ययन दल का गठन किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार को इसकी सिफारिश प्राप्त हो गई है; और

(ग) उक्त आधार पर रायल्टी दरों के संशोधन को कब तक अधिसूचित कर दिया जाएगा?

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) सरकार अध्ययन दल से रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होने के बाद ही इस मामले में कोई निर्णय लेगी।